GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3756
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2015
Awareness on Drug Addiction
Singh Shri Abhishek

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made by the Government in creating awareness among youth towards drugs addiction;

(b) whether any efforts are being made by the Government to keep youth away from evils of drugs addiction by involving their parents and teachers; and

(c) the steps being taken to curb the sale of drugs to the youths in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)
(a)&(b) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment conducts the following awareness generation programmes towards Drug addiction including youth:

1.1 The Ministry conducts campaign through print, electronic and social media for creating awareness. Information regarding ill-effects of alcoholism and drug abuse is also disseminated in regional languages through the All India Radio programme "Sanwarti Jayen Jeevan Ki Rahen" and also through advertisements in news papers.

1.2 The Ministry celebrates the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26th June every year by holding functions and organizing exhibitions to sensitize the people about the ill effects of drug abuse. National Awards are also conferred to individuals and institutions in order to recognise the efforts and encourage excellence in the field of prevention of drug abuse.

1.3 Ministry has set up a National Toll Free drug de-addiction helpline Number 1800-11-0031 w.e.f. 07.01.2015 to help the victims of Drug abuse, their family and society at large.

1.4 The Ministry undertakes awareness and outreach programmes involving organizations like Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), National Service Scheme (NSS) etc. The Ministry, in the year 2011-12, had conducted an awareness generation programme in two states namely Punjab and Manipur which covered 3000 villages in ten districts of Punjab and 750 villages in seven districts of Manipur through the NYKS. The Ministry has again assigned a project to NYKS, in October 2014, for Preventive Education and Awareness Generation Programme in the remaining 11 districts of Punjab and also for sustaining the pilot project of Awareness and Education for prevention of Drugs and Alcoholism in 10 districts.

1.5 The Ministry organized two Regional Workshops during the year 2015-16 in collaboration with NSS at Shillong and Indore to sensitize NSS Co-ordinators. Participants from the North Eastern States, Odisha and West Bengal attended the Workshop at Shillong and from Madhya Pradesh, Chhatisgarh and Rajasthan at Indore. The Programmes were also attended by a large number of students and youth.

1.6 National Institute of Social Defence (NISD), an Autonomous body under the Ministry organizes sensitization programme in schools and colleges and skill development programmes for its target group in collaboration with Regional Resource and Training Centres (RRTCs) and other collaborating partners.

1.7 NISD participates in various fairs like India International Trade Fair, Shilpostav at Delhi Haat etc. by placing stalls for dissemination of information on drug abuse.

2. The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs have informed that they take following measures to prevent abuse of Narcotic Drugs and psychotropic substances in the country:

2.1 Visit of NCB representative to Schools for conducting Awareness programmes: Organizing/conducting awareness programmes in Schools/colleges in different parts of India making the vulnerable classes of society aware of the abuse of narcotic drugs and its ill effects.

2.2 Display Boards in Pubs and Bars and Airports have been installed/are being installed to spread awareness about the punishment provided in law for drug trafficking and its abuse.

2.3 Distribution of CDs to all District Magistrate of India: NCB has distributed CDs containing presentation regarding ill effects of drug abuse among the youth in the country to create awareness among the children.

2.4 Display Boards in School Buses: To spread awareness among the children about the abuse of drugs.

2.5 Display Boards in Delhi Metro.

2.6 Drug Awareness Programme: Power Point Presentation compiling information on drug abuse and its health and economic costs useful for teachers, students and parents sent to all District Magistrates/Collectors of the Country to conduct awareness programmes in the schools/colleges falling in their jurisdiction.

2.7 Drug Awareness Display on NCB Facebook Page: To inform the public about the ill effects of drug abuse and drug trafficking.

2.8 Celebration of 26th June every year as the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking: NCB organizes International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26th June every year in all field units of NCB to spread awareness among the general public about the ill effects of drug abuse and drug trafficking.

2.9 Rallies, Dramas are conducted regularly in association with Non Government Organizations to spread awareness programmes all over the country.

2.10 SMS alerts of Drug Awareness are flashed through mobile service providers on special occasions.

2.11 Organization of Workshops and seminars in coordination with various Governments agencies and NGOs in the country about ill effects of drug abuse and trafficking.

2.12 During the year 2014 and 2015 (up to Oct. 2015) Narcotic Control Bureau (NCB) conducted 911 and 549 awareness programmes in various States/UTs in the country

(c) Department of Revenue has informed that Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 was framed taking into account India''s obligation under the three UN drug Conventions viz, Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, Convention on Psychotropic Substances 1971 and the UN Convention against illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance, 1988 as well as Article 47 of the Constitution of India. This Act prohibits, except for medical or scientific purposes, the manufacture, production, trade, use, etc of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The Act provides for stringent penalties/rigorous provisions for consumption as well as for illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Both Central and State Governments have been empowered to enforce the provisions of the Act. These enforcement agencies have adopted various measures, inter-alia, including (i) intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes, (ii) strict surveillance and enforcement at entry/exit points of the border, (iii) strengthening of the intelligence system, and (iv) bilateral/multilateral cooperation with other countries for sharing of information on illicit trafficking.

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) have informed that there is mechanism for co-ordination between the NCB and the State Police Forces.

i) Financial assistance to different States/ UTs is given under the Scheme "Assistance to State and UTs" by NCB, MHA. The Scheme is to finance State Governments to strengthen their enforcement capabilities for combating illicit traffic in Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. Assistance is provided in kind for the following equipments :-
A. Surveillance equipment;
B. Laboratory equipment
C. Vehicles for patrolling/surveillance
D. Computers and their accessories
E. Fax machine and photocopies and
F. Training equipment & Aids
G. Other equipments useful for enforcement

ii) The Drug Detection Kits are provided to all the Drug law enforcement agencies including State Police by NCB twice every year. Drug Detection kits are used for detection of various drugs by drug law enforcement officers. NCB procures and provides Drug Detection Kits to the Drug Law Enforcement agencies across the country. Availability of a simple, correct and user friendly method for 'on the spot' testing of suspected materials even by non-technical officials is a key requirement for effective enforcement. Drug Detection Kits are of three types i.e. Narcotic Drugs Detection Kit, Precursor Chemicals Detection Kit and Ketamine Detection Kit along with testing methods and flow charts.

iii) Time to time, these trainings are organized by NCB for different drug law enforcement agencies including state police.

(a) Computer based training (CBT) - The training is given on the following modules, namely Drug ID and Drug testing, Interdiction techniques for land controls, interdiction techniques at airports, interdiction techniques at sea ports, intelligence and control delivery, money laundering and human trafficking. The interactive nature of the modules facilitate enhances the retention capacity of the learners.

(b) Capsule Course on Drug laws- Training is made comprehensive by the inclusion of all important topics relating to drug law administration & enforcement including NDPS Act & Rules, Financial investigation, PITNDPS, Precursor Control (RCS Order 1993), Money Laundering, Composite seizures and other linkages, Modus Operandi, National Drug Scenario, Case studies, Court judgments, Identification and spot testing of narcotic drugs, Concealment methods, Rummaging of vessels/ships in the sea for drugs and applicability of Customs & other Acts etc. in the training curriculum.

(iv) Co-ordination with State agencies and ADRIN for destruction of illicit cultivation of opium and cannabis annually.

(v) Regional co-ordination meetings (RCM) with State Police and other drug law enforcement agencies on annual basis.

(vi) NCB officials participate in REIC meetings at the state Hqrs and at CEIB meeting in Delhi.

(vii) NCB co-ordinates intelligence sharing with State Police and other drug law enforcement agencies like Intelligence Bureau, CBI etc.

(viii) NCB provides monetary rewards to officers of State Police and other drug law enforcement agencies.